# Vaccines for older adults are still necessary to prevent disease

### By National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a)

Adults still need vaccines: The immune system weakens with age, so older adults are more likely to be infected and develop complications from vaccine-preventable diseases – including long-term illness, hospitalization, and death. Immunity from some vaccines can decrease over time, which means booster doses are necessary to maintain protection. Also, some bacteria or viruses change over time making annual vaccination necessary.

Vaccines prevent outbreaks and save lives: Getting vaccinated not only keeps you safe, but can also keep your loved ones from getting sick. For example, although older adults don't usually get whooping cough, they can carry the bacteria and expose others. Because infants are too young to be vaccinated against whooping cough, grandparents can help protect their little ones by getting vaccinated themselves and not spreading the disease. Vaccines also play an important role in the community. People who get vaccinated protect those who are

too young, too old, or too sick to be vaccinated themselves. The more people who are vaccinated, the lower the chance that the disease will spread. This is called "community immunity" or "herd immunity."

Vaccines work even if they don't completely prevent a disease: Some people may still get the disease they were vaccinated against, but they will typically be less ill and less likely to experience complications.

Skipping vaccines is even more risky if you have serious conditions: Chronic conditions like heart disease and respiratory illnesses, like COPD, can make it harder to fight off infection and make complications more severe. For example, flu increases your risk of heart attack if you have heart disease; can raise blood sugar to dangerous levels if you have diabetes; and can lead to pneumonia and serious respiratory problems if you have chronic lung disease.

**Even if your doctor doesn't bring it up, you still need vaccines:** Most adults see more than one health care professional, and vaccine records may be scattered amongst them. Your health care professional may not know you are due for a vaccine or may forget to bring it up. That doesn't mean you don't need any vaccinations, so be sure to ask if you are up-to-date and use a wallet card or phone app to track which vaccines you have received and when.

Information for this article came from the n4a publication titled "Our Best Shot: The Truth About Vaccines for You and Your Loved Ones."



## Upcoming classes and workshops for Winter 2018

#### Living Well with Chronic Conditions Workshop

Living Well with Chronic Conditions is a workshop series that educates and helps participants balance and improve their health if they have chronic conditions such as arthritis, high cholesterol, hypertension, obesity, stroke, anxiety/depression, or emphysema. Participants make weekly action plans, share experiences, and help each other solve problems they encounter in creating and carrying out their self-management program.

Living Well with

Chronic Conditions begins Feb. 6 – March 13 at the University of Utah Farmington Health Center (165 N. University Avenue, Farmington) from 10 a.m.– 12:30 p.m.

To register, visit *livingwell.utah.gov*. For more information, call Ann Workman 801-525-5061.

## Stepping On Fall Prevention Workshop

Are you afraid of having a fall? Do you feel like you may be at risk for an injury from a fall? Stepping On is an evidence-based program proven to reduce falls

and build confidence in older people. Presenters such as a physical therapist, pharmacists and vision experts help you gain specific knowledge and skills to prevent falls.

Stepping On Fall Prevention Workshop begins

Thursdays, Jan. 18 – March 1 from 2-4 p.m., at the Bountiful Library (725 South Main Street Bountiful).

Call 801-525-5050 to reserve your seat at the workshop.

ND ~ North Davis (801) 525-5080

42 South State Street

Clearfield, UT 84015

## Free Dementia Dialogues course begins Jan. 9 Davis County Senior locations. The every-

Services Family Caregiver Support Program is offering a five session course for caregivers with friends or family members who have Dementia. The once every-other-week course is called Dementia Dialogues. To help individuals better care for those who suffer from Dementia, the course provides information and basic training on communication, addressing challenging behavior. and creative problem solving.

Seating for the free course is limited and is offered at two different locations. The every-other-Tuesday sessions of Dementia Dialogues start Jan. 9 at Fairfield Village of Layton (1205 N. Fairfield Road, Layton). Also, there is an every-other-Thursday series of classes starting Jan. 11 at Golden Years Senior Activity Center (726 South 100 East, Bountiful). Either location's classes are held 3-4:30 p.m. For more information

and details on the Dementia Dialogues, or to reserve your spot, call Sonia Siguenza at 801-525-5105 or Davis County Senior Services at 801-525-5050 option 5.

## Medicare 101 classes scheduled

Davis County Health Department's Senior Services offers a free one hour class about Medicare options, enrollment, and benefits.

If you are turning 65 or preparing to retire, please join us for one of the following classes:

• Wednesday, Jan. 24,

6:30-7:30 p.m. – Kaysville Library (215 Fairfield Road, Kaysville)
• Tuesd

• Tuesday, Feb. 13, 6:30-7:30 p.m. – Clearfield Library (562 S. 1000 E., Clearfield)

For more information about the Medicare 101 classes, contact Jackie Smith at 801-525-5082 or jmsmith@daviscountyutah. gov.



*Senior Scoop* is published by the Davis Clipper in conjunction with the Davis County Health Department's Senior Services.

Kristy Cottrell, Division Director Bob Ballew, DCHD Public Information Officer

Mailing Address
P.O. Box 618

P.O. Box 618 Farmington, UT 84025 (801) 525-5050 Physical Address 22 S. State Street Clearfield, UT 84015

All issues of Senior Scoop are available at www.daviscountyutah.gov/senior\_scoop

#### **CD** – Lifetime **CD** – Arthritis Fitness 9 Exercise 9 Tai Chi 9:30 Internet 101 9:30 **GY** – Lapidary GY - Enhance-8:30 Fitness 8 Sing-a-long 10:30 Watercolor 9 **ND** – Theatre **ND** – Bingo Thursday 12 12:30 10 11 12 CD - \*\*Water-**CD** – \*\*Sign **CD** – Stay Fit CD - \*\*Road Trip CD - \*\*AARP Language Class presentation **Smart Driving** color 9:30 10:30 2-3:30 11:30 Memory Magic Felt Family Bingo 10:15 GY - \*\*Trip to Game Day 2 Tai Chi Chair 10:30 Karaoke Singers **GY** – Pencil Art 10:30 GY - Stained 11:30 Kingsbury Hall Class 9 **GY** - Dancing Tai Chi 9:30 GY - Zumba Glass 9 ND - \*\*Lunch at Yoga 10 Positive Aging Grannies 8:30 9:30 ND - Texas ND – Quilters 10 4:45 **ND** – Boredom The Greenery Buster Games 11:30 Hold 'Em 12 Pinochle 12:30 **ND** – Bingo 12:30 Bingo 12:30 **Centers Closed** CD - Tai Chi **CD** – Arthritis CD - Food \$ense **CD** – Lapidary Exercise 9 9:30 8:30 11 **ASL Support** Square Dancing Food Addicts Movie 12:30 6:30-8 p.m. Group 2 GY - Stained 12:30 GY - Sit n Fit GY - Ceramics 9 **GY** – Arthritis Glass 9 Tai Chi 9:30 Line Dancing 10 Class 12:30 8:30 Woodcarving 9 **ND** – Art 9 Grocery ND - Texas ND - China Tech Lab 10 Shopping 12:30 Hold 'Em 12 MLK Jr. Day Painting 9 Bingo 12:30 ND - Pinochle 10 Bingo 12:30 23 **CD** – Lifetime CD - Water Color CD - \*\*Pie Pizza \*\*CD, GY & ND CD - Lunch/ Bell Choir 11:30 Fitness 9 9:30 in Clinton 11:30 **January GY** – Arthritis Reiki 10:30 Ceramics 12 Shopping 12 **Birthday Party** Class 12:30 **GY** – Dancing GY – Sit n Fit **GY** – Lapidary **CD** – Internet Oil Painting 1 Grannies 8:30 8:30 8:30 101 9:30 ND - Yellow Dot ND - Lapidary 8 Senior Social Craft Class 9:30 GY - Howard's program 10:45 **Blood Pressure** ND - Pinochle 10 Band 11:30 11:15 ND - \*\*Lunch at Texas Hold Clinic 10 Food \$ense ND - Bingo 'Em 12 Chuck A Rama 10:30 12:30 Quilters 10 Feb 1 Feb 2 CD - Bingo **Centers Closed CD** – Lifetime Fit CD - Tai Chi 9:30 **CD** – Lapidary for Department 10:15 Reiki 10:30 8:30 Internet 101 9:30 Pinochle 12:30 Game Day 12:30 In-Service **GY** – Craft Class **GY** - Stained **Training GY** – Ceramics 9 9:30 **GY** – Line Glass 9 Bingo 12:30 Grocery Dancing 9:30 Line Dancing 10 ND - Art Class 9 Shopping 12:30 Tai Chi 9:30 ND - Health Tips Tech Lab 10 **ND** – Theatre ND - Texas CLOSED w/ Gina 11:15 Thursday 12 Hold 'Em 12 Texas **TODAY** Bingo 12:30 Hold 'Em 12 Pinochle 10 Bingo 12:30

\*\* Call Senior Activity Center to Make Reservation
(Note: Not all activities are listed on this consolidated calendar, activities are subject to change)

**GY ~ Golden Years** 

(801) 451-3660

**726 South 100 East** 

**Bountiful, UT 84010** 

**CD ~ Central Davis** 

(801) 444-2290

**81 East Center Street** 

Kaysville, UT 84037